

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A ~~polymer-based injectable gel-forming~~ composition ~~for intratissue and/or intravascular implantation, comprising~~ characterized in that it comprises:

- at least one linear polymer that is water-insoluble and soluble in at least one water-miscible solvent,

- at least one water-insoluble, hydrophilic crosslinked polymer, and

- at least one biocompatible, water-miscible solvent;

~~and in that it~~ wherein the composition is in the form of a suspension of solid particles of said hydrophilic crosslinked polymer in a solution of said linear polymer and the water-miscible solvent.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one linear polymer is selected from the group consisting of linear polymer(s) is (are) chosen from poly(alkyl acrylates), poly(alkyl methacrylates), poly(alkyl cyanoacrylates), poly(vinyl acetates), poly(vinyl butyrates), poly(vinyl formals), poly(vinyl acetals), poly(vinyl butyrals), polyoxypropylenes, polyoxytetramethylenes, ~~water-insoluble cellulose esters~~, water-insoluble esters of chitosan, water-insoluble esters of ~~or other~~ polysaccharides, polylactides, polyglycolides, polycaprolactone, poly(malic acid) esters, poly(maleic acid) esters, poly(fumaric acid) esters, ~~and~~ water-insoluble linear copolymers, and combinations thereof. ~~or derivatives comprising these compounds.~~

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, ~~characterized in that the linear polymer(s) is (are) chosen wherein the at least one linear polymer is selected from the group consisting of~~ poly(hydroxyethyl methacrylate), poly(methyl methacrylate), poly(hydroxypropyl methacrylate), ~~a copolymers copolymer of~~ hydroxyethyl methacrylate and acrylonitrile, a copolymer of ~~[[or]] hydroxypropyl methacrylate and [[of]] acrylonitrile, copolymers a copolymer of~~ hydroxyethyl methacrylate and N-tert-butylacrylamide, a copolymer of ~~[[or]] hydroxypropyl methacrylate and [[of]] N-tert-butylacrylamide, a copolymer of copolymers of~~ hydroxyethyl methacrylate and acetoacetoxyethyl methacrylate, a copolymer of ~~[[or]] hydroxypropyl methacrylate and [[of]] acetoacetoxyethyl methacrylate, poly(N-acryloyl-2-amino-2-hydroxymethyl-1,3-propanediol), poly(n-2-hydroxypropyl methacrylamide), and combinations thereof derivatives thereof.~~

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed in ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein the at least one linear polymer polymer(s) is (are) chosen selected from the group consisting of a copolymer copolymers of~~ hydroxypropyl methacrylate and ~~[[of]] acrylonitrile, copolymers a copolymer of~~ hydroxypropyl methacrylate and ~~[[of]] N-tert-butylacrylamide, a copolymer of and copolymers of~~ hydroxypropyl methacrylate and ~~[[of]] acetoacetoxyethyl methacrylate, and combinations thereof.~~

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein the at least one linear polymer represents linear polymer(s) represent(s) from 3 to 25% mass per volume (m/V) of the composition.~~

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein the at least one water-insoluble, hydrophilic crosslinked polymer is selected from the group consisting of the hydrophilic crosslinked polymer(s) is (are) chosen from the polymers derived obtained from~~ [[the]] crosslinking polymers of at least one polymer type selected from the group consisting of poly(alkyl acrylates), poly(alkyl methacrylates), poly(alkyl cyanoacrylates), poly(vinyl acetates), poly(vinyl butyrates), poly(vinyl formals), poly(vinyl acetals), poly(vinyl butyrals), polyoxypropylenes, polyoxytetramethylenes, water-insoluble esters of polysaccharides, polylactides, polyglycolides, polycaprolactone, poly(malic acid) esters, poly(maleic acid) esters, poly(fumaric acid) esters, water-insoluble linear copolymers, and combinations thereof.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein the at least one water-insoluble, hydrophilic crosslinked polymer is obtained from crosslinking polymer(s) is (are) chosen from the polymers derived from the crosslinking of water-soluble linear polymers.~~

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition ~~of as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that wherein~~ the water-soluble linear polymers are selected from the group consisting of ~~chosen from~~ alginates[[;]], starches, starch derivatives; cellulose ethers[[;]] , cellulose acetates with a degree of substitution of between 0.6 and 0.8[[;]], cellulose sulfates[[;]] , water-soluble polysaccharides [[;]], chitosan salts[[;]], acrylic polymers, [[and]] methacrylic polymers [[;]] , substituted polyacrylamides, substituted polymethylacrylamides, [[or]] unsubstituted polyacrylamides, [[and]] unsubstituted

polymethacrylamides; hydrolyzed ~~derivatives of~~ poly(vinyl acetates); polymers ~~derived~~ obtained from polyoxyethylene, polyethyleneimine ~~[[;]]~~, ~~soluble salts of~~ ~~polyvinylpyridine~~[[;]], polyvinylpyrrolidone[[;]], polyurethanes[[;]], combinations of these polymers, and salts of these polymers thereof ~~and copolymers thereof~~.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed in ~~claim 6~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the at least one water-insoluble hydrophilic crosslinked polymer(s) is (are) chosen is selected from the group consisting of a crosslinked polymers of hydroxyethyl methacrylate, crosslinked polymers of hydroxypropyl methacrylate, crosslinked polymers ~~[[or]]~~ of poly(N-acryloyl-2-amino-2-hydroxy-methyl-1,3-propanediol), ~~and also from the crosslinked copolymers of hydroxyethyl methacrylate and~~ ~~[[of]]~~ poly(N-acryloyl-2-amino-2-hydroxymethyl-1,3-propanediol), ~~[[or]]~~ crosslinked polymers of of hydroxypropyl methacrylate and of poly(N-acryloyl-2-amino-2-hydroxymethyl-1,3-propanediol), and combinations thereof.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed ~~in any one of the preceding claims of claim 1~~, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the degree of crosslinking of the at least one water insoluble, hydrophilic crosslinked polymer is between 0.5 and 12% ~~(m/V)~~.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the at least one water-insoluble, hydrophilic crosslinked polymer represents polymer(s) represent(s) from 1 to 30% mass per volume (m/V) of the composition.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that wherein the size of the particles of the at least one water-insoluble, hydrophilic crosslinked polymer polymer(s) ~~is between ranges from~~ 1 ~~[[and]]~~ to 1000 μm .

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition of claim 1 as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that it wherein the composition comprises at least one linear hydroxyethyl methacrylate or hydroxypropyl methacrylate polymer or a linear hydroxyethyl methacrylate-based or hydroxypropyl methacrylate-based copolymer and particles of crosslinked polymers of hydroxyethyl methacrylate, of hydroxypropyl methacrylate or of poly(N-acryloyl-2-amino-2-hydroxymethyl-1,3-propanediol), and/or of crosslinked copolymers of hydroxyethyl methacrylate and of poly(N-acryloyl-2-amino-2-hydroxymethyl-1,3-propane $\bar{\text{d}}$ iol) or of hydroxypropyl methacrylate and of poly(N-acryloyl-2-amino-2-hydroxymethyl-1,3-propanediol).

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed in claim 13, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the composition comprises:

- at least one linear, hydroxyethyl methacrylate-based or hydroxypropyl methacrylate-based copolymer, and
- at least particles of crosslinked copolymers of hydroxyethyl methacrylate or hydroxypropyl methacrylate and of poly(N-acryloyl-2-amino-2-hydroxymethyl-1,3-propanediol).

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that wherein~~ the at least one biocompatible, water-miscible solvent is selected ~~solvent(s) is (are) chosen~~ from the group consisting of N-methylpyrrolidone, dimethylethylamide, diethylene glycol dimethyl ether, ethyl lactate, ethanol, dimethoxyethane, dimethylsulfoxide, glycofurol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed in claim 15, ~~characterized in that said solvents are chosen wherein the~~ at least one biocompatible, water-miscible solvent is selected from the group consisting of ethanol, ~~and~~ N-methylpyrrolidone, and combinations thereof.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The ~~injectable gel-forming~~ composition as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims, further comprising~~ ~~characterized in that it also~~ ~~contains~~ one or more adjuvants ~~chosen from~~ selected from the group consisting of dyes, [[:]] imaging markers, [[:]] anti-inflammatory agents, [[:]] angiogenic agents, [[:]] antimitotics, [[:]] angiogenesis inhibitors, [[:]] growth factors, [[:]] vitamins, [[:]] hormones, [[:]] proteins, [[:]] vaccines, [[:]] peptides, [[:]] antiseptics, and antimicrobial agents.

Claims 18-19 (Cancelled).

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A ~~linear copolymer-based intermediate~~ solution, ~~characterized in that it comprises:~~ comprising

- at least one linear copolymer of hydroxypropyl methacrylate and of acrylonitrile, and/or at least one copolymer of hydroxypropyl methacrylate and of N-tert-butylacrylamide and/or at least one copolymer of hydroxypropyl methacrylate and of acetoacetoxyethyl methacrylate, and

- at least one biocompatible, water-miscible solvent;

it being understood that, when the ~~said intermediate~~ solution contains a linear copolymer of hydroxypropyl methacrylate and of acrylonitrile, then the solvent is not dimethyl sulfoxide.